

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 23 and ending at page 11, line 14 with the following amended paragraph:

A 3780 gram sample of contaminated phosphoric acid plant pond water containing 1.85% P₂O₅, 0.121% Ca, 0.360% F, 0.074% Si and 0.425% SO₄ was obtained from a commercial wet process phosphoric acid plant pond system. To this sample, 17.3 grams of calcium oxide was added and the solution was mixed for about 20 minutes. Next, 50% sodium hydroxide solution was added to and mixed with the above solution in the amount of 42.16 grams, which was sufficient to increase the pH to 5.0. The solution was then allowed to stand, whereupon the solids precipitated as a result of the chemical reactions between the calcium oxide, sodium hydroxide and pond water settled to form a sludge at the bottom of the container. After 16 hours, 3524 grams of clear liquid was decanted from the above container, leaving a sludge that represented 8.22% by weight of the initial pond water, calcium oxide and sodium hydroxide solution. The clear liquid was then allowed to age for an additional 32 hours. At this point, the liquid had a somewhat hazy appearance as a result of the decomposition of the silicic acid present in the to hydrated silicon dioxide. Flocculent was then added to and mixed with a 1750 gram sample of the above aged solution in an amount equal to 0.41 grams. The flocculent used was produced by Arr-Maz Products, LP and was designated 1046C. The solution was then allowed to stand 5 hours, whereupon the flocculated silicon dioxide settled to form a sludge at the bottom of the container. After 5 hours, 1350 milliliters of clear liquid was decanted from the above container, leaving a sludge that represented about 23% by volume of the original 1750 gram sample. The pH of the resulting clear liquid was then adjusted to a value of 3.01 via the addition of 1.99 grams of 96% sulfuric acid. Laboratory analysis of a sample of the solution at this point indicated that it contained 1.50% P₂O₅, 0.0064% Ca, 0.0202% F and 0.0027% Si.